



***In the name of God***

***Title:***  
***Cancer systems biology***

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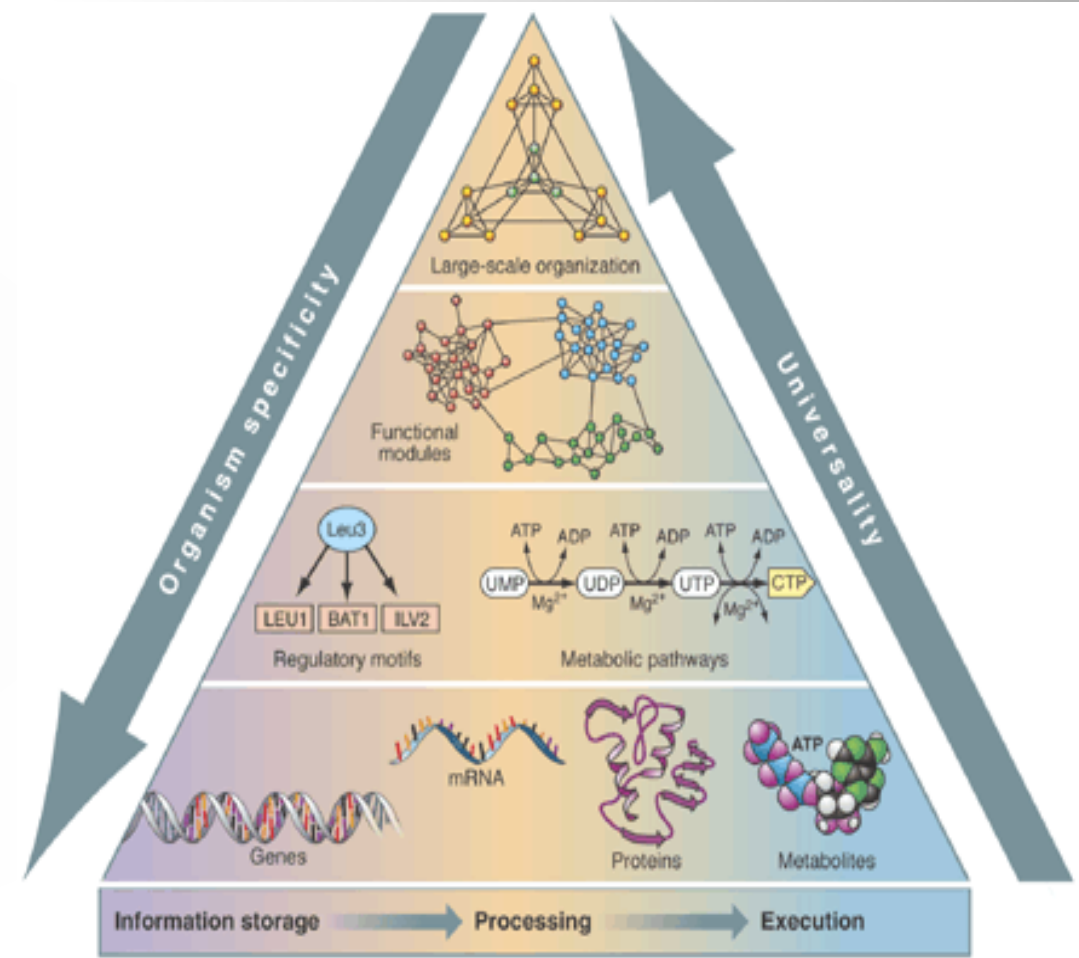
***With assistance: Dr. Gheibi***

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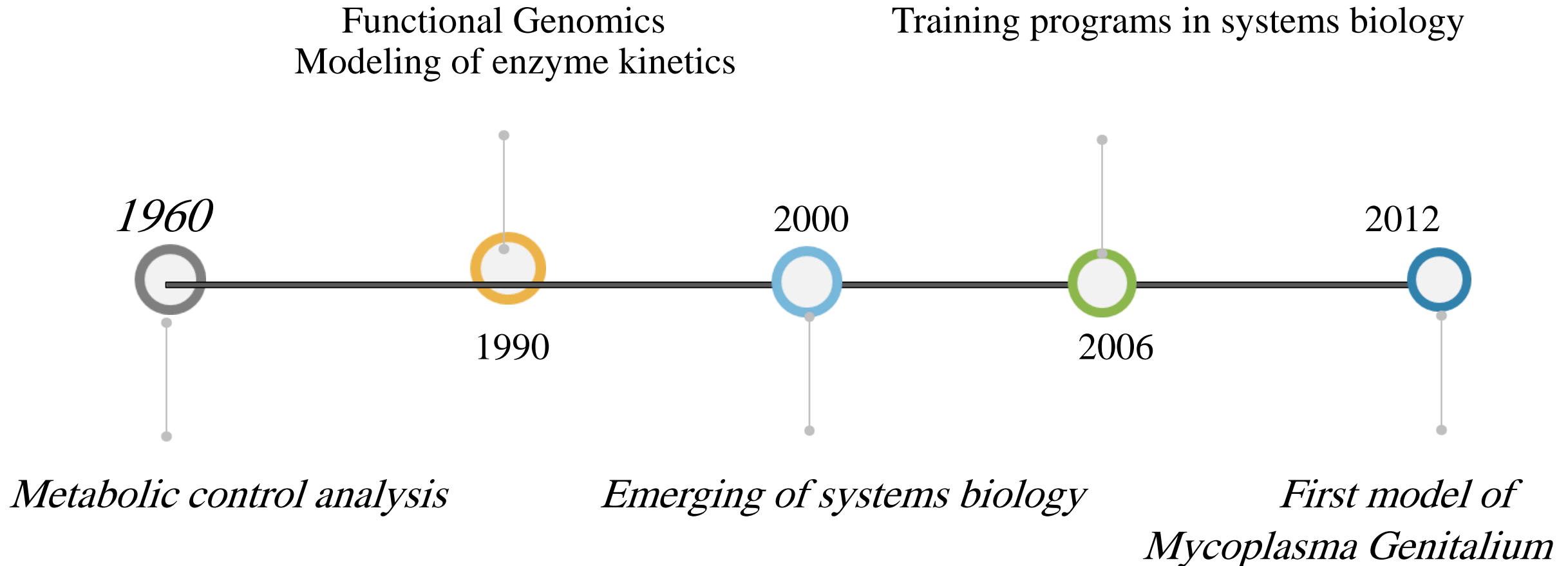
# What is systems biology?

- The *computational* and *mathematical* modeling of complex *biological systems*
- A *biology*-based interdisciplinary field that focuses on complex interactions within biological systems
- Using a holistic approach to biological research(1)



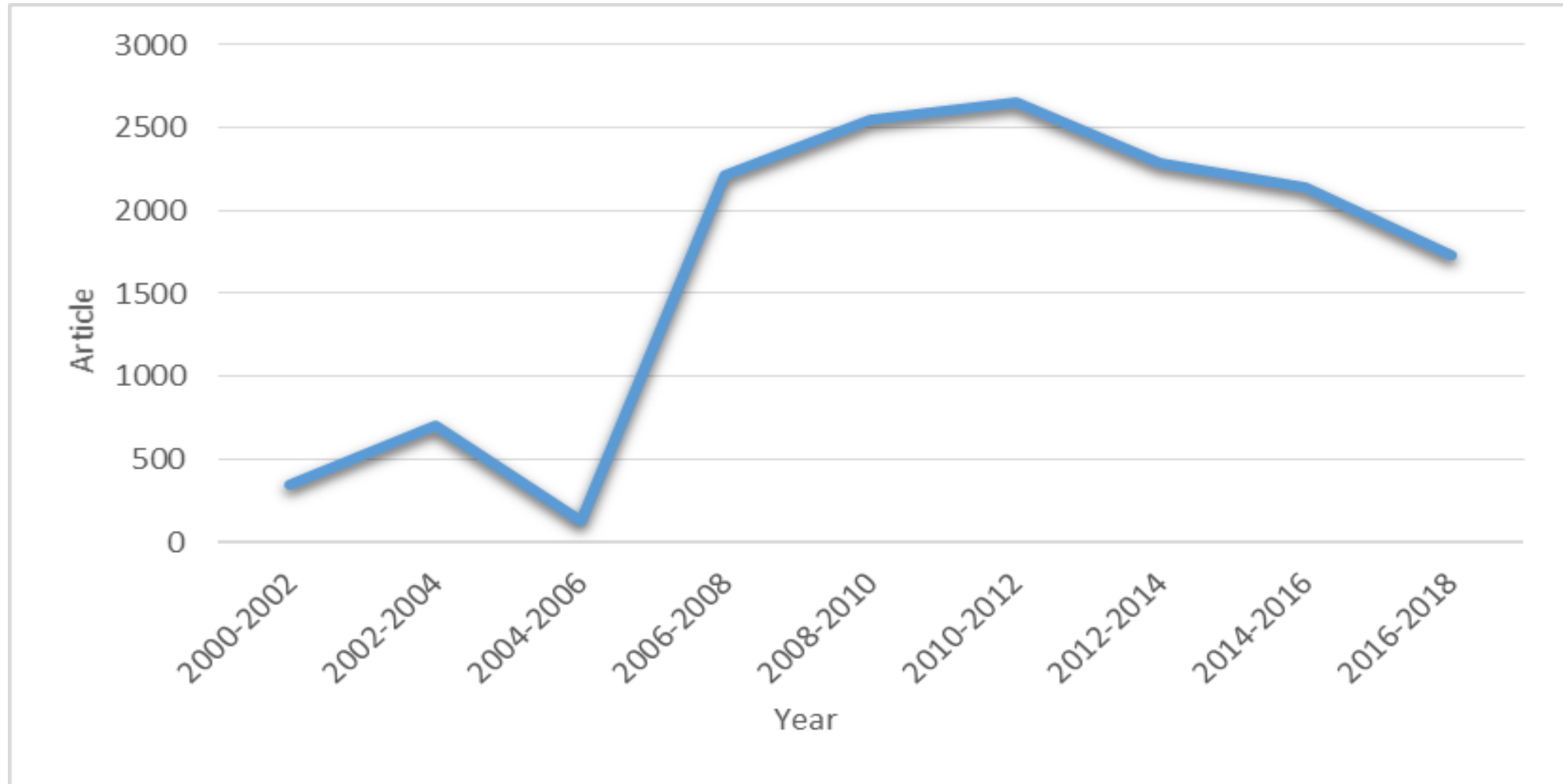


# *Systems biology timeline*



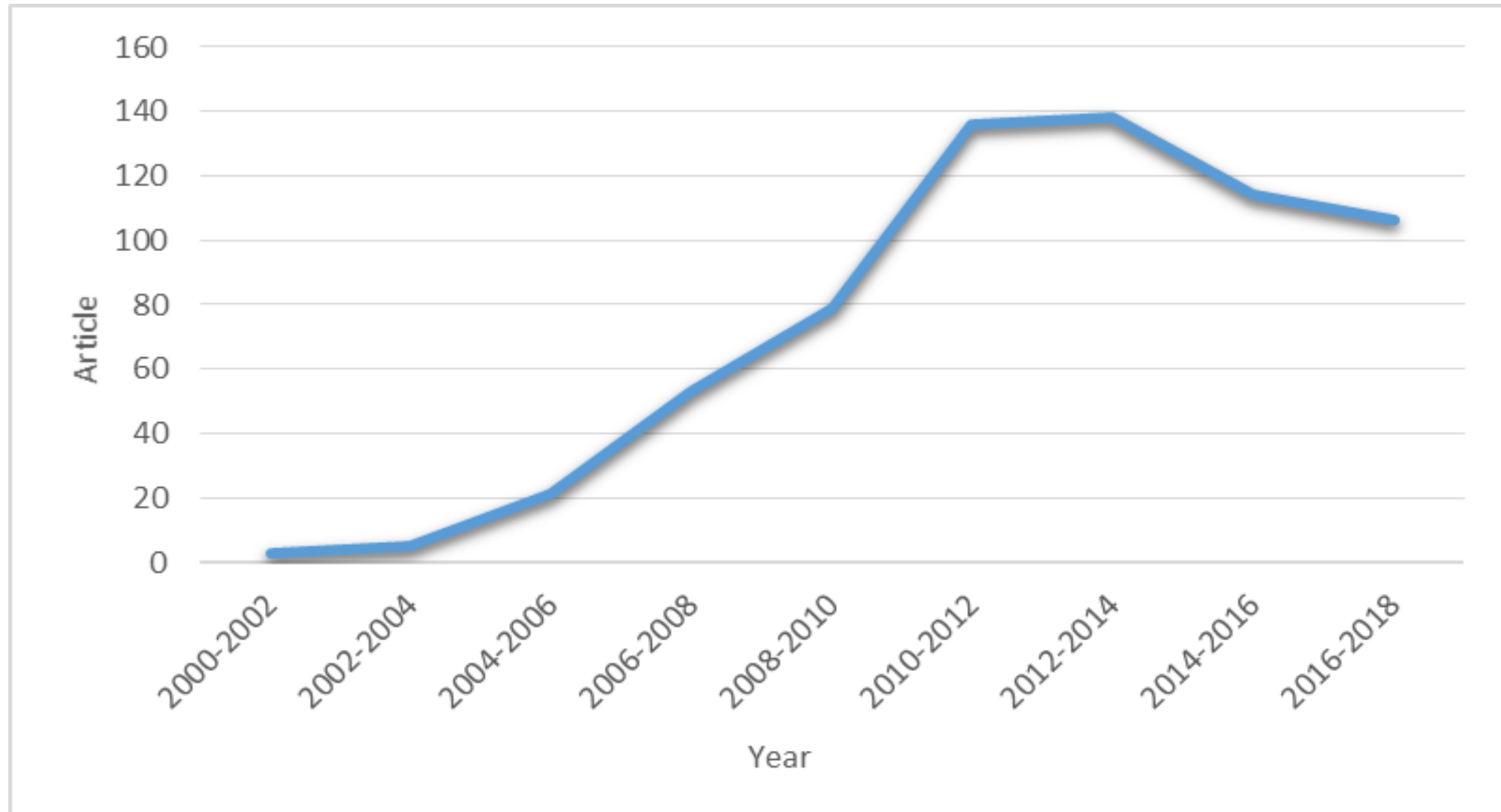
# *Systems biology Chart*

*(Google scholar)*



# *Cancer systems biology Chart*

*(Google scholar)*



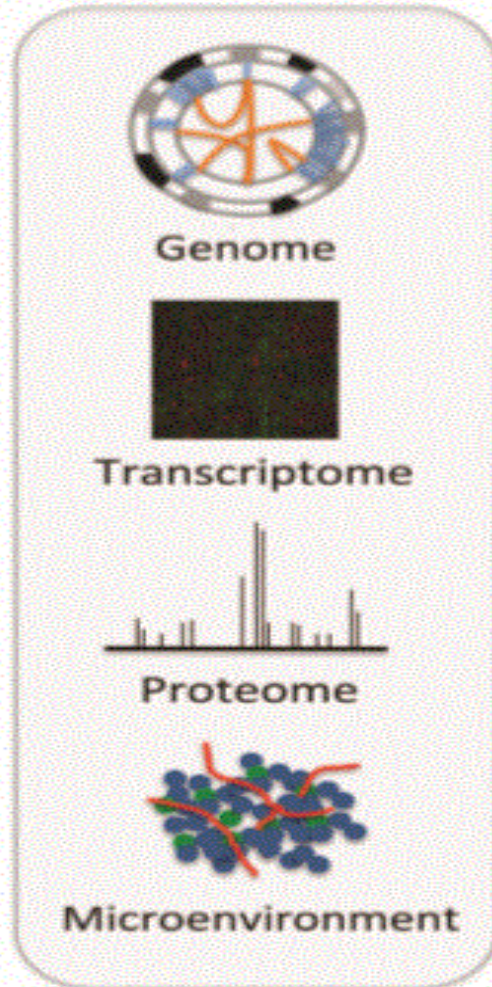
## *Cancer systems biology:*

- *Developing an increasingly holistic view of **cancer development** and **progression***
- *Understanding how complex cancer-associated deregulations shape **malignant states** and **phenotypes**(2)*
- *Understanding **cancer initiation** and **progression***
- *Discovery and implementation of more effective **anticancer therapeutic strategies**(3)*

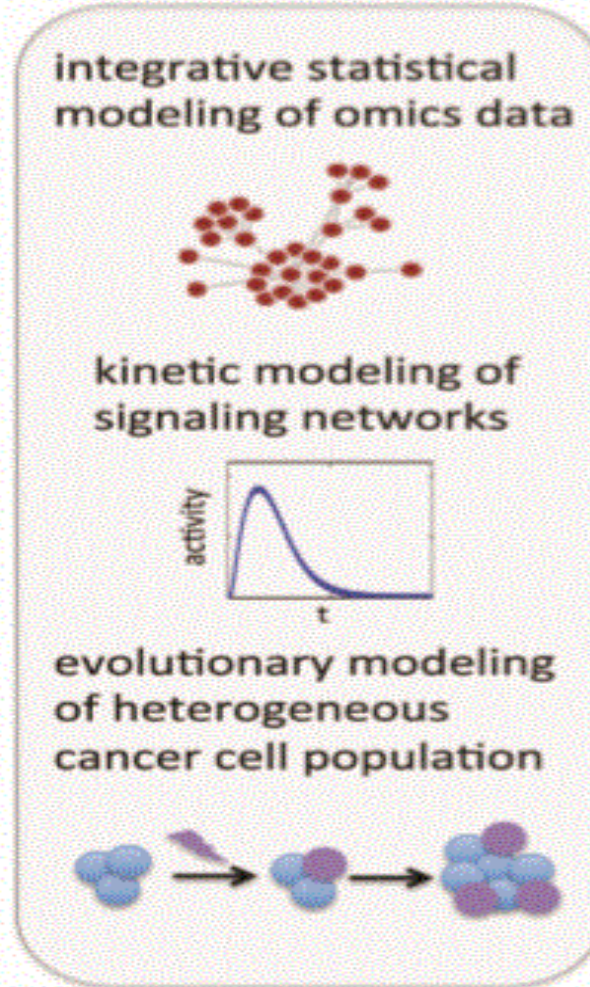


# *A summary of cancer systems biology approaches to guide cancer therapy(2)*

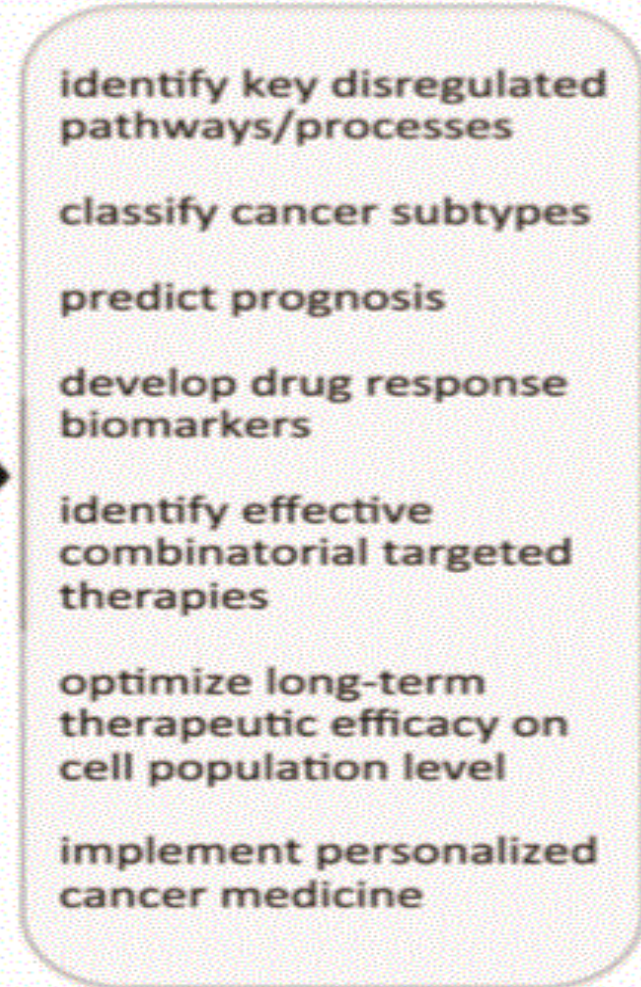
## Systematic measurements



## Systems biology approaches



## Cancer therapeutics





# *Cancer*

- *Caused by corruption of **normal biological circuits** and **processes** to sustain **uncontrolled** proliferative growth*
- *Characterized by a complex spectrum of **alterations** that affect multiple scales ranging from molecular activity within cells onto communication between cells and tissues(4)*

# *Why cancer systems biology?*

1. Highly complex patterns of *interactions* leads to great challenges in understanding cancer progression and designing effective cancer therapy

2. At the *genomic* level, frequent *disruption of the DNA* complicating the discovery of underlying drivers of tumor progression(2)





3. At the *protein* level, *complex signaling networks* makes it difficult to anticipate the influences of *oncogenic* perturbations and reverse those influences with pharmacological agents

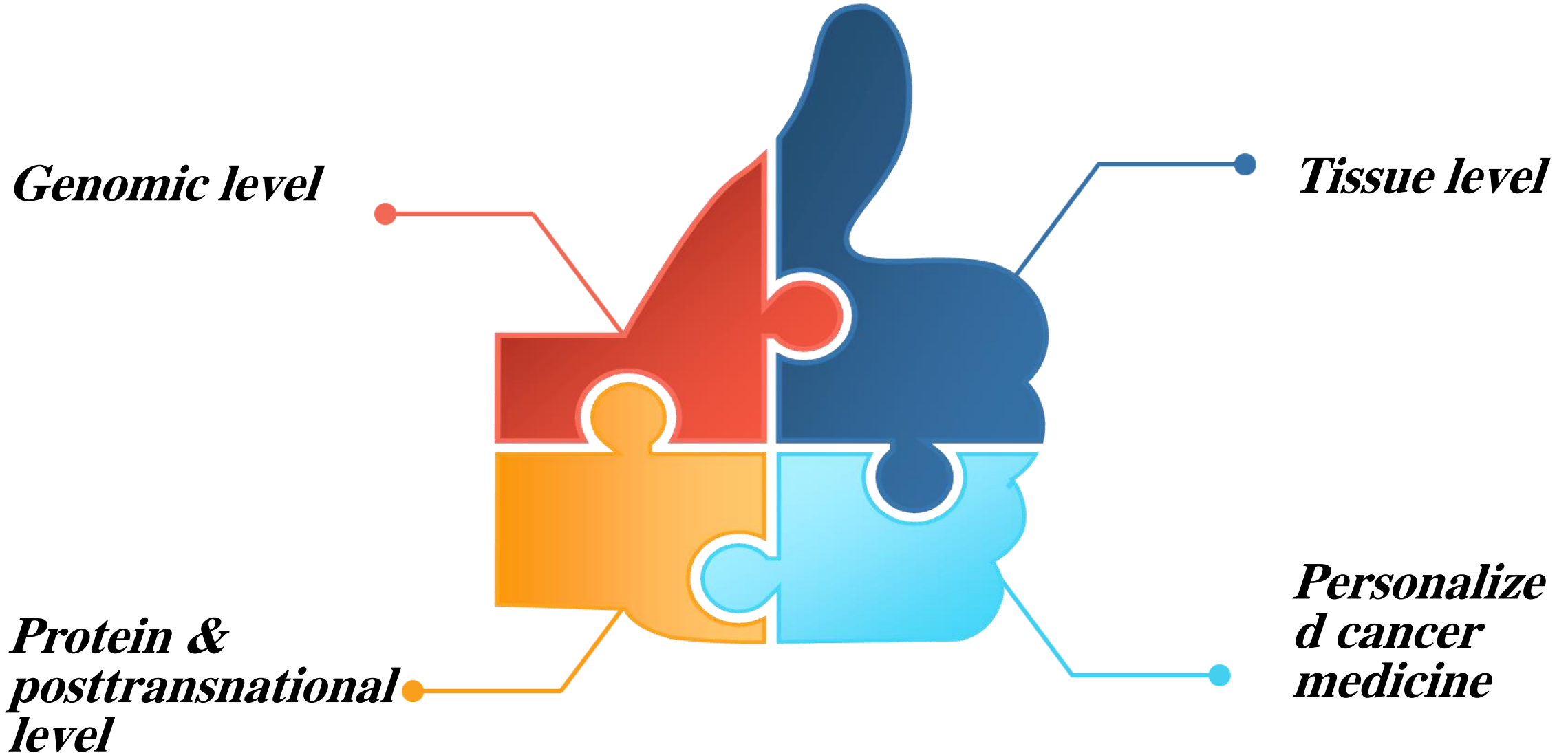
4. At the *tissue* level, interactions between a *tumor and its local environment* influence tumor growth and invasion(2)



5. in many cancer types, substantial *heterogeneity* of molecular alterations in patient population yields highly *variable clinical responses* to the *same treatment*(2)

❖ *systems biology* approaches that can manage and model this complexity will be needed to identify and validate *targets, biomarkers* and discover more effective and *less toxic* therapeutic strategies(5)

# ***PROBING CANCER COMPLEXITY***



# *PROBING CANCER COMPLEXITY AT THE GENOMIC LEVEL*

*Cancer is a disease driven by the accumulation of **genomic** and **epigenomic** alterations*

- ***Genomic** alterations:*
  1. *point mutations*
  2. *translocations*
  3. *copy number variations*
- ***Epigenomic** alterations:*
  1. *hyper- or hypomethylation of specific regions and genes*
  2. *changes in levels of histone modifications(2)*



## *genetic and epigenetic alterations:*

### *1) drivers:*

*confer selective growth advantage and are thus causal for **malignant transformation** and tumor progression.*

### *2) passengers:*

*accumulate in the course of **cell divisions** and contribute little to **malignant phenotypes**.*

*❖ **Systems-level** analyses have made creative use of **passenger** mutations to uncover potential therapeutic strategies(2)*

## *Complexity of the cancer genome:*

- ❖ *The rate of **genomic alteration** occurrence plays a central role in this **evolutionary process**(6)*
- ❖ *In cancer cells, oncogene-induced DNA replication stress and/or direct disruptions of DNA repair genes leading to widespread **genomic instability***
- ❖ *Cancer cells display extensive **intratumoral** and **intertumoral** heterogeneity(2)*



❖ *Intratumor* heterogeneity can further seed *intertumoral* heterogeneity among different metastases, if :

different metastases arise from *distinct* founder cells that have escaped from the *primary tumor*(3)

❖ *Darwinian point of view:*

therapeutic intervention can act as an imposed *selective pressure* that potently and rapidly alters subclonal constitution(2)



## *Interrogating the cancer genome using next-generation sequencing:*

- ❖ *Next-generation sequencing* : ultrafast, high-throughput and affordable sequencing via massively parallel assessment of sequence fragments(7)
- ❖ *Whole-genome sequencing* of tumor samples with paired normal tissue is now routinely used(2)

❖ *Whole-exome sequencing :*

*1) more cost-effective and higher coverage alternative to whole-genome sequencing*

*2) detects aberrations that directly alter protein functions with high sensitivity(6)*

❖ *RNA sequencing :* *detect gene expression changes in tumors, revealed novel expressed variants, gene fusions and splicing alterations in cancers*

❖ *single-cell sequencing:* *valuable information on tumor heterogeneity and clonal evolution history can be extracted(8)*



## *Systems approaches for addressing cancer genome complexity:*

- ❖ *Even though **specific** genomic alterations vary from patient to patient, they usually result in disruption of a **few key pathways and processes***
- ❖ ***Systems-level** analysis has provided insights into common mechanisms underlying cancer pathogenesis(2)*



## *PROBING CANCER COMPLEXITY AT THE PROTEIN AND POSTTRANSLATIONAL LEVELS:*

- ❖ *In **normal** tissues, the **homeostasis** of signaling networks is precisely maintained*
- ❖ *In **cancer** cells, genomic and epigenetic alterations leading to aberrant protein expression or function disrupt this homeostasis(9)*
- ❖ ***Loss** of **negative** regulator expression in signaling networks can remove important brakes on signaling, resulting in **uncontrolled** response(6)*

## *Experimental probing of aberrant function in signaling networks:*

- ❖ *large-scale protein profiling* is increasingly used to directly and systematically monitor signaling pathway activities in cancer cells
- ❖ *mass spectrometry-based phosphoproteomics: identifies phosphorylated proteins(2)*

## *Modeling the dynamics of signaling networks:*

- ❖ *Kinetic modeling of protein–protein interactions:*
- ❖ *reproduce signaling dynamics **in silico** and make quantitative predictions of the effect of various network alterations*
- ❖ *These models demonstrated great potential in identifying drug response biomarkers, resistance mechanisms, and synergistic drug combinations(10)*

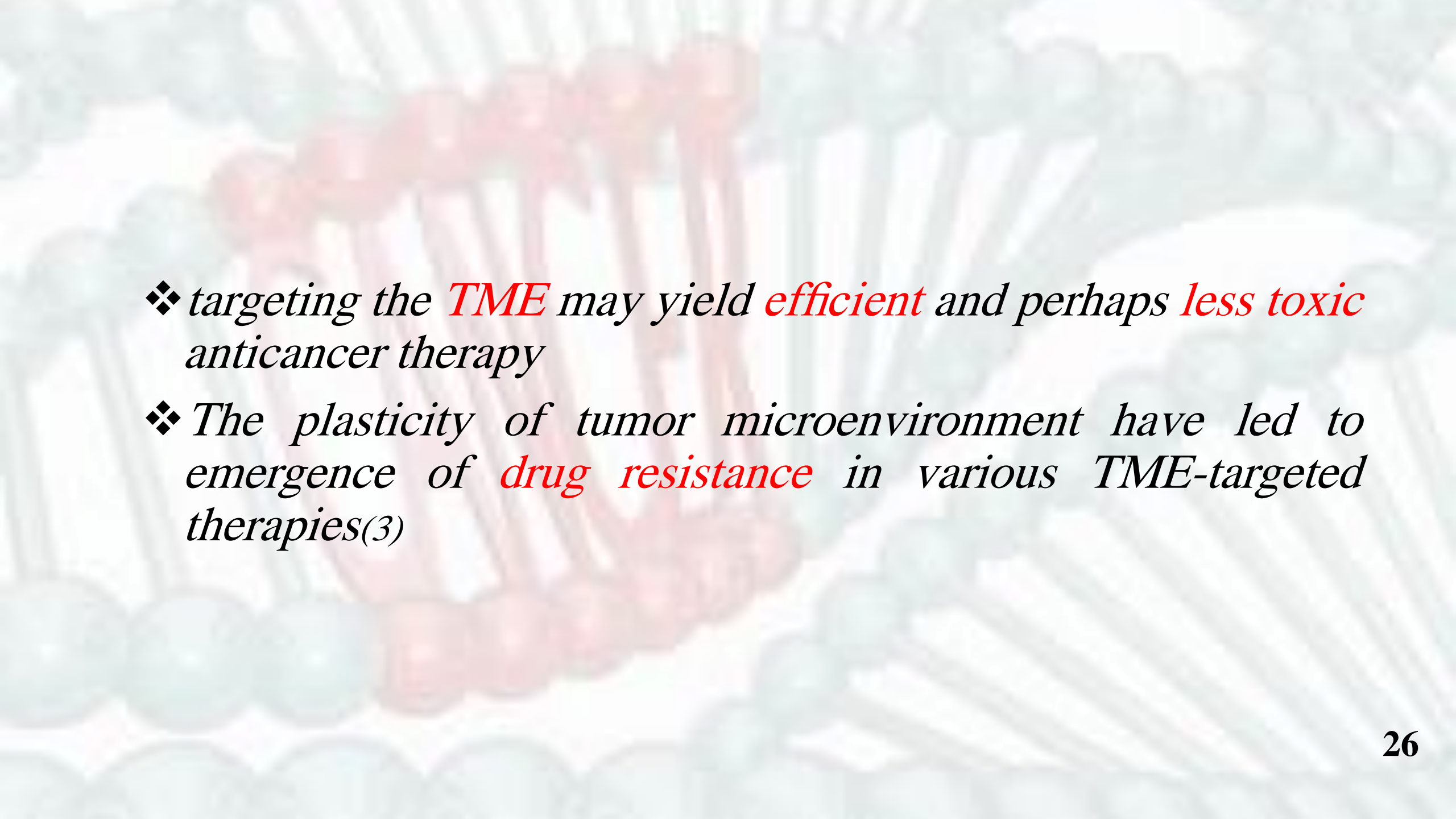


## *Data-driven systems biology analysis for dissecting aberrant signaling function:*

- ❖ *The analysis of **proteome-wide profiles** has provided important insights into cancer signaling networks and into how to target their aberrant functions(5)*

## ***PROBING CANCER COMPLEXITY AT THE TISSUE LEVEL:***

- ❖ *Tumor microenvironment (TME): plays an active role in tumor **progression***
- ❖ *Cancer cells benefit from the microenvironment by acquiring **nutrients** and various **biochemical factors**(2)*

- 
- ❖ *targeting the **TME** may yield **efficient** and perhaps **less toxic** anticancer therapy*
  - ❖ *The plasticity of tumor microenvironment have led to emergence of **drug resistance** in various TME-targeted therapies(3)*



## *Experimental approaches for analyzing the tumor microenvironment:*

- ❖ *mRNA and protein arrays on microdissected tumor biopsy samples or xenografted tumor lesions:*  
*identified key factors and pathways, TME-related molecular signatures predictive of clinical outcome*
- ❖ *cross-species hybridization of microarrays:*  
*simultaneous assessment of gene expression in both tumor and host cells via separate hybridization(2)*

❖ *In vivo imaging:*

*examine tumor–stroma morphology and interactions or assay specific molecular markers such as pH, hypoxia or proteases with fluorescence probes(4)*

❖ *In vitro* culture models of tumor cells with key components of the microenvironment:

*discover important interactions between stroma and tumor cells*

❖ *Modeling the TME:*

*provided important insights into how tumor and the microenvironment coevolve(2)*



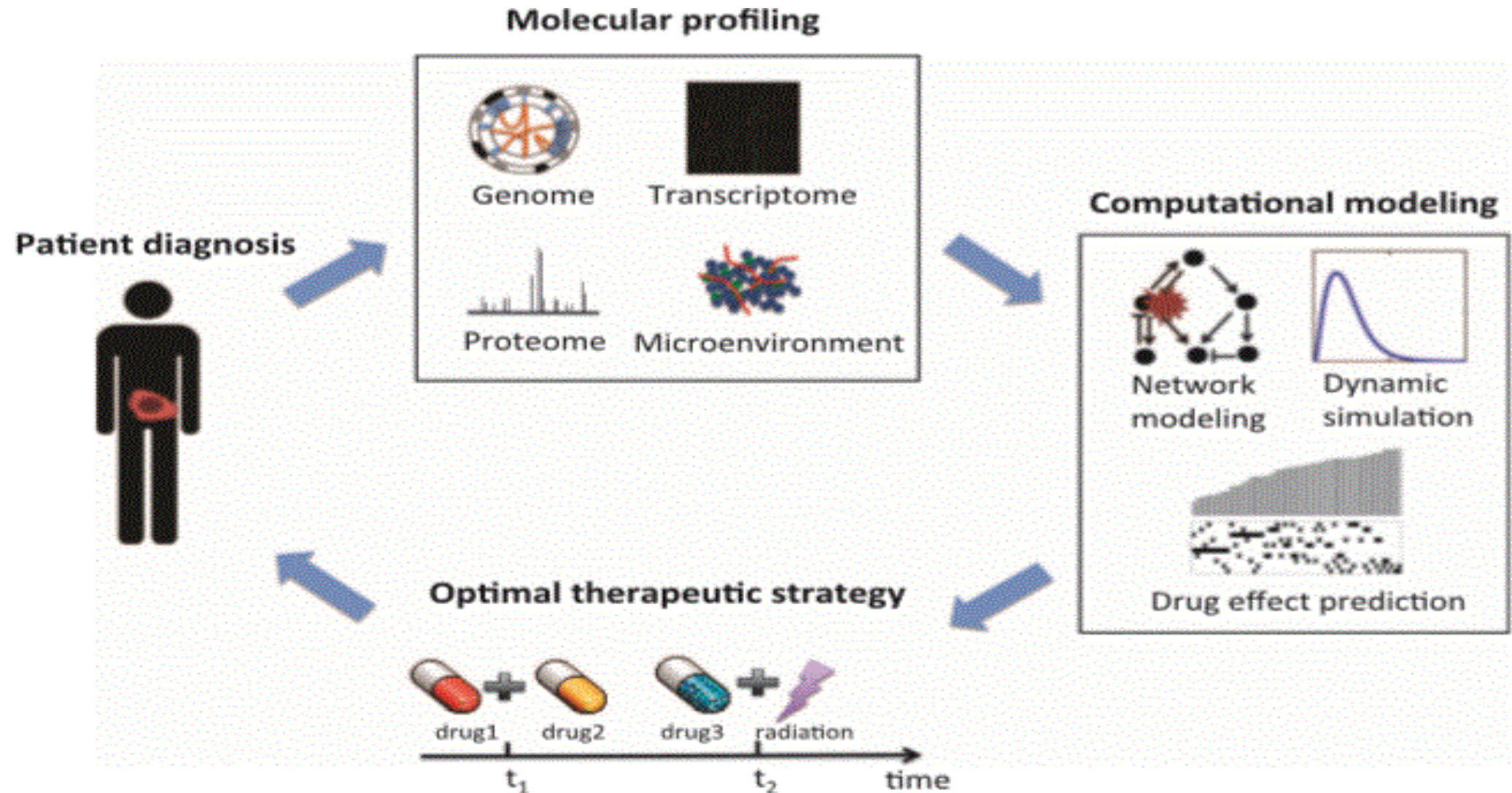
## ***CANCER SYSTEMS BIOLOGY AND PERSONALIZED CANCER MEDICINE:***

❖ *computational platform for identifying clinically relevant alterations based on **whole-exome** sequencing data from formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tumor samples:*

*Applying this method to patients of various tumor types successfully identified potential clinical targets in **15 out of 16** patients(2)*



## *model-based strategy for personalized cancer medicine(2):*



## *CONCLUSION:*

- ❖ *Cancer is an extremely complex disease featuring systems-level disruptions(3)*
- ❖ *Cancer systems biology operates on large multiscale data set to develop integrative and predictive models*
- ❖ *The integrative and dynamic nature of these models makes them extremely powerful in addressing some of the major challenges in cancer biology*
- ❖ *As cancer treatment approaches a more personalized era, cancer systems biology will play a central role in the development of integrative model-based cancer medicine(2)*

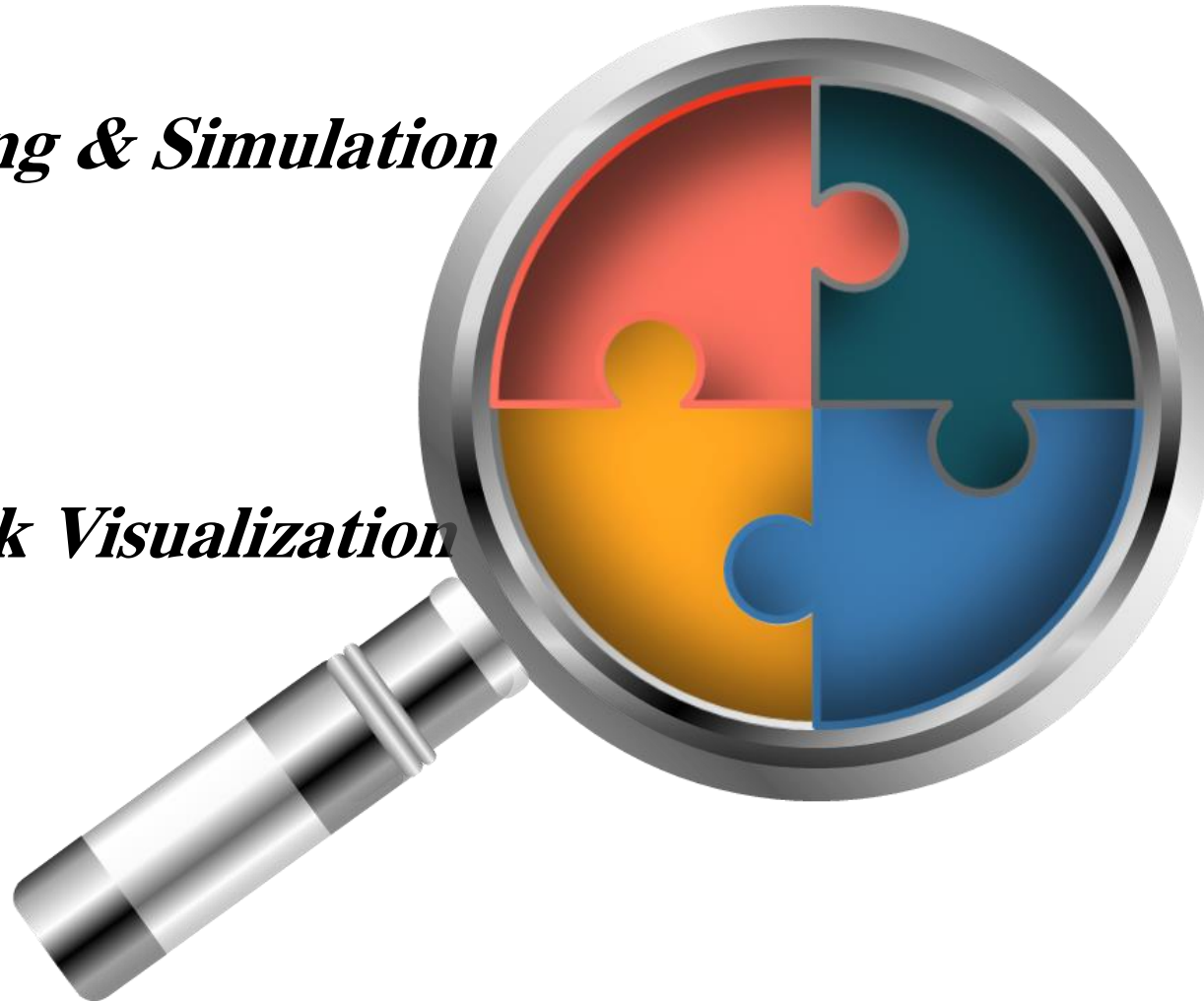
# *Systems biology databases & tools*

*Modeling & Simulation*

*Pathway*

*Network Visualization*

*Protein-pro interaction*





## *Modeling & Simulation tools:*

- ❖ *CellDesigner* (<http://www.celldesigner.org/>)
- ❖ *Jarnac/JDesigner* (<http://sbw.kgi.edu/>)
- ❖ *COPASI* (<http://www.copasi.org/>)
- ❖ *E-cell* (<http://www.e-cell.org/>)

## *Network Visualization Tools:*

- ❖ *Cytoscape* (<http://www.cytoscape.org/>)
- ❖ *BioTapestry* (<http://www.biotapestry.org/>)
- ❖ *BioUML* (<http://www.biouml.org/>)
- ❖ *CADLIVE* (<http://www.cadlive.jp/>)
- ❖ *Edinburgh Pathway Editor*  
(<http://www.bioinformatics.ed.ac.uk/epe/>)

## *Pathway database:*

- ❖ ***KEGG(Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes)***  
*[\(http://www.genome.jp/keg/\)](http://www.genome.jp/keg/)*
- ❖ ***REACTOME*** *[\(http://www.reactome.org/\)](http://www.reactome.org/)*
- ❖ ***MetaCyc*** *[\(http://www.metacyc.org/\)](http://www.metacyc.org/)*
- ❖ ***EcoCyc*** *[\(http://www.ecocyc.org/\)](http://www.ecocyc.org/)*



## *Protein-protein interaction database:*

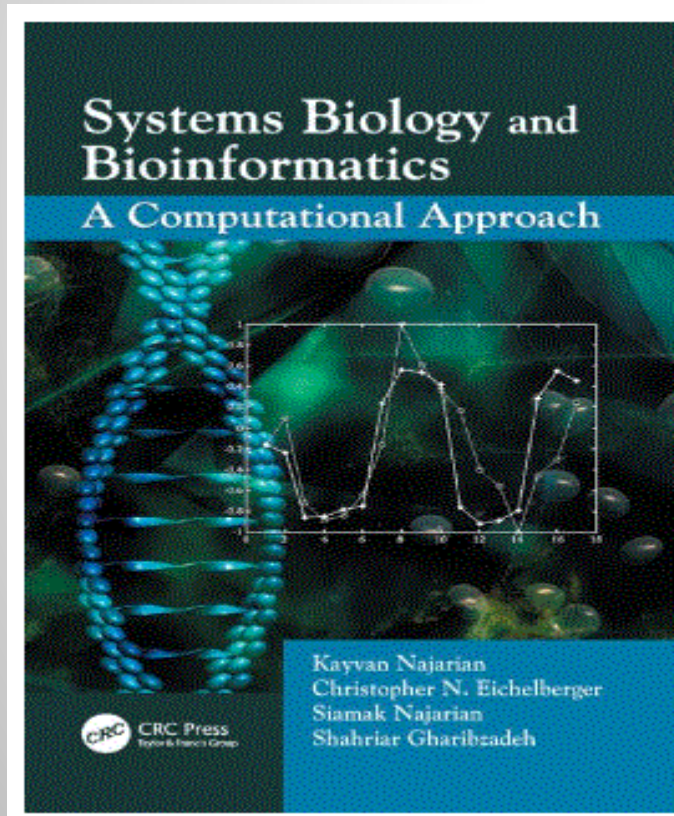
- ❖ *BINDplus (Biomolecular Object Network Database)*  
([http://www.thomsonreuters.com/products\\_service/scientific/BINDplus](http://www.thomsonreuters.com/products_service/scientific/BINDplus))
- ❖ *DIP (The Database of Intracting Proteins)*  
(<http://www.dip.doe-mbi.ucla.edu/dip/Main.cgi>)
- ❖ *MINT (The Molecular INTeraction database)*  
(<http://www.mint.bio.uniroma2.it/mint/Welcome.do>)
- ❖ *STRING(Search Tool for the Retrieval of Intracting Genes/Proteins)*  
(<http://www.string.embl.de/>)

# *Books*

## *Systems biology & Bioinformatics*

*Published date: May 31, 2017*

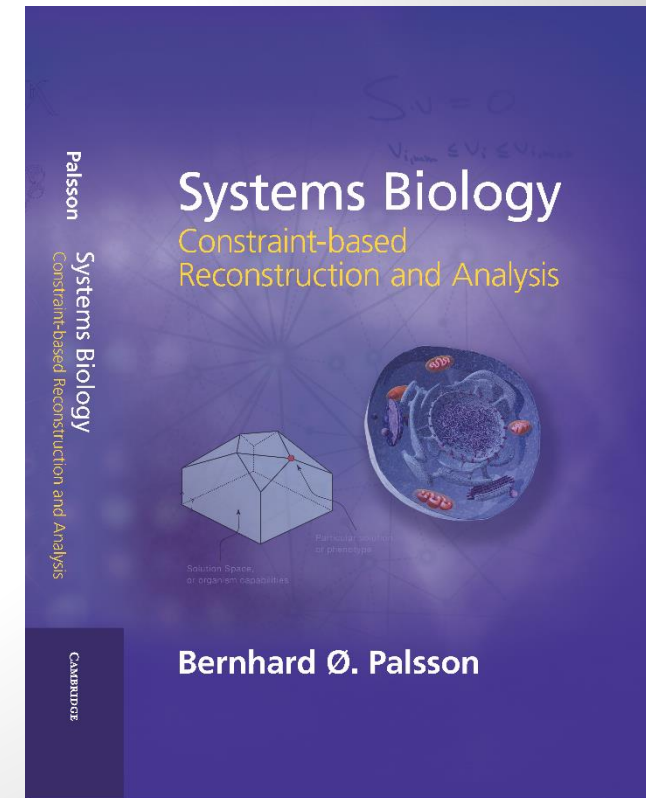
*140 pages*



## *Systems biology*

*Published date: January 2015*

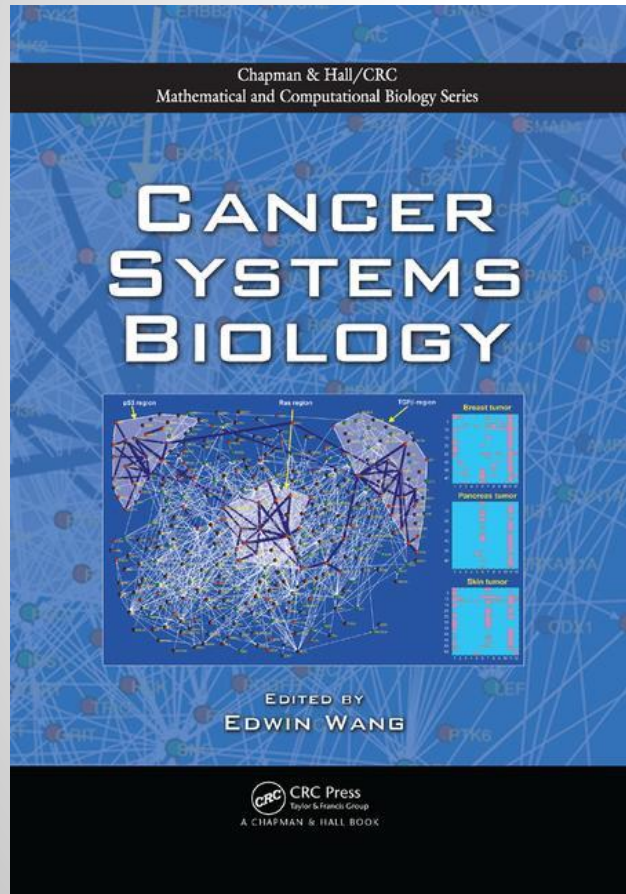
*University of California*



# *Cancer systems biology*

*Published date: June 14, 2017*

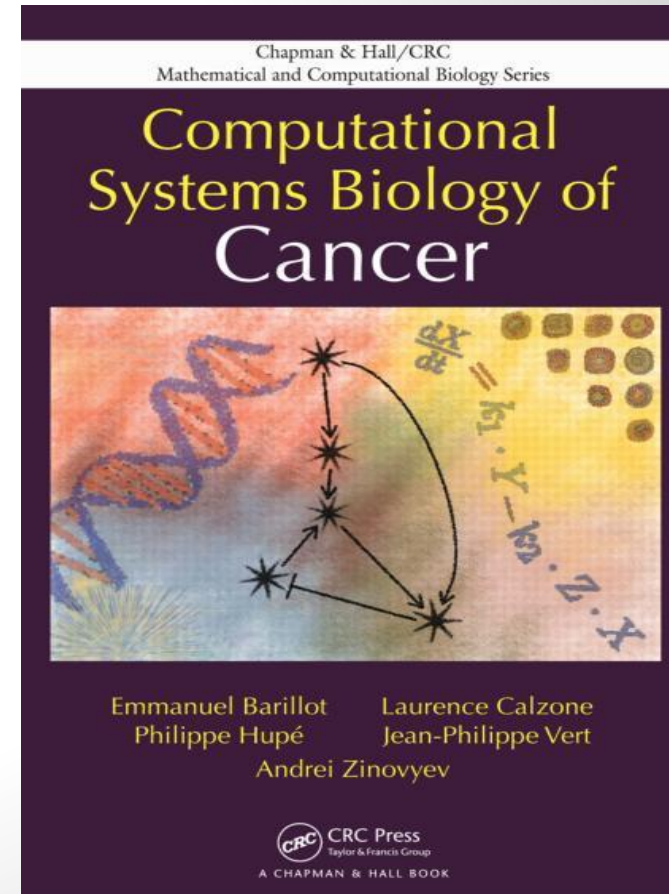
*456 pages*



# *Computational systems biology of cancer*

*Published date: August 25, 2012*

*461 pages*





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10) *Annesofie Lærke Hansen, Rebecca M Lennen, Nikolaus Sonnenschein and Markus J Herrgård. Systems biology solutions for biochemical production challenges*





Thank  
you!!